

IN THE SPECIFICATION

[0001] The present application is a continuation-in-part application of ~~United States~~U.S. Patent Application ~~Serial Number~~10/425,267 (filed April 29, 2003) entitled "Wedge Plate Inserter/Impactor and Related Methods for Use in Implanting an Artificial Intervertebral Disc", now U.S. Pat. 7,235,081 ("the '081 patent"), which is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Patent Application ~~Serial Number~~10/282,356 (filed October 29, 2002) entitled "Instrumentation and Methods For Use In Implanting an Artificial Intervertebral Disc", now U.S. Pat. 7,169,182 ("the '182 patent"), which is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Patent Application ~~Serial Number~~10/256,160 (filed September 26, 2002) entitled "Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having Limited Rotation Using a Captured Ball and Socket Joint With a Solid Ball and Compression Locking Post", now U.S. Pat. 6,989,032 ("the '032 patent"), which is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Patent Application ~~Serial Number~~10/175,417 (filed June 19, 2002) entitled "Artificial Intervertebral Disc Utilizing a Ball Joint Coupling", which is a ~~continuation~~continuation-in-part application of U.S. Patent Application ~~Serial Number~~10/151,280 (filed May 20, 2002) entitled "Tension Bearing Artificial Disc Providing a Centroid of Motion Centrally Located Within an Intervertebral Space", which is a continuation-in-part application of both U.S. Patent ~~Number~~Applications ~~6,669,730~~09/970,479 (filed October 4, 2001) entitled "Intervertebral Spacer Device Utilizing a Spirally Slotted Belleville Washer Having Radially Extending Grooves", now U.S. Pat. 6,669,730 ("the '730 patent) as well as U.S. Patent Application ~~Serial Number~~10/140,153 (filed May 7, 2002) entitled "Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having a Flexible Wire Mesh Vertebral Body Contact Element" now abandoned, the former being a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Patent

Application ~~Serial Number~~ 09/968,046 (filed October 1, 2001, ~~now abandoned~~) entitled "Intervertebral Spacer Device Utilizing a Belleville Washer Having Radially Extending Grooves", now abandoned and the latter being a continuation-in-part application of both U.S. Patent Application 09/970,479 (filed October 4, 2001) entitled "Intervertebral Spacer Device Utilizing a Spirally Slotted Belleville Washer Having Radially Extending Grooves", now U.S. Pat. ~~Patent Number~~ 6,669,730 ("the '730 patent) as well as U.S. Patent Application ~~Serial Number~~ 10/128,619 (filed April 23, 2002) entitled "Intervertebral Spacer Having a Flexible Wire Mesh Vertebral Body Contact Element", now U.S. Pat. 6,863,689 ("the '689 patent") which is a continuation-in-part application of both U.S. Patent ~~Number~~ ~~6,607,559~~ Application 09/906,119 (filed July 16, 2001) entitled "Trial Intervertebral Distraction Spacers", now U.S. Pat. 6,607,559 ("the '559 patent") as well as U.S. Patent ~~Number~~ ~~6,673,113~~ Application 09/982,148 (filed October 18, 2001) entitled "Intervertebral Spacer Device Having Arch Shaped Spring Elements", now U.S. Pat. 6,673,113 ("the '113 patent"). All of the above mentioned applications are hereby incorporated by reference herein in their respective entireties.